

District IV Commissioner Romney Rogers



Save The Date! My 2015 Telephone Town Hall Meeting – On **Thursday, September 10 from 7 - 8 PM**, I hope you'll have time to participate in my next Telephone Town Hall Meeting. Residents with listed phone numbers will receive a call prior to the start of the meeting. Neighbors can also call **Toll Free 1-888-409-5380** to join in. For audio recordings of past meetings, please visit <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/public-affairs-office/telephone-town-hall-meetings>.

Suspension of Backflow Prevention Program – Until further notice, the City has suspended the backflow prevention program for **residential** irrigation systems. This does not impact the ongoing backflow prevention program for commercial properties. We are exploring the possibility of grandfathering some residential irrigation systems, as well as reviewing and resolving inconsistent determinations from various State agencies. For public safety, the City complied, with due diligence, to State regulations, and a representative from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection was closely involved in the development of the City's compliance ordinance.

Stormwater Improvements on Cordova Road – Work is underway on Cordova Road from SE 11 Court to SE 12 Street to reduce tidal and stormwater flooding. Improvements include a tide valve, drainage pipes, storm catch basins, and grass swales. In addition, a roundabout, similar to the one pictured at right, is being proposed to enhance safety and calm traffic in the vicinity of the Hemingway Landings condominium complex.



Levitt Pavilion – The City has been chosen as the site for a Levitt Pavilion (<http://levittpavilions.org>), which is proposed for Esplanade Park on the Riverwalk in Sailboat Bend (District II). The pavilion would include an open-air stage with a partial roof covering and state-of-the-art lighting and sound systems. My understanding is that the pavilion would be used for up to 50 free concerts a year, mostly during the lunch hour, and it would be available for other community events, as well. We are in the very early stages of evaluating this proposal, and there will be ample opportunities for public input. While Levitt Pavilions would provide seed money and technical expertise to help jumpstart the effort, a local, private, non-profit group, Friends of Levitt Pavilion, will need to be formed. It is anticipated that the Friends group will be raising the significant funds needed for the venue, relying mostly on private donors, not the City. A Levitt Pavilion is designed to activate underutilized public places, such as the Riverwalk, which has consistently been identified as a top priority among our neighbors and City leaders.

Short-term Rentals – I have received reports about issues created by vacationers renting homes by the day or week, but the State won't allow us to impose any rules prohibiting or limiting the duration or frequency of such rentals. The City Commission has reviewed a proposal from the City Attorney to regulate such rentals. Our attorney has proposed that owners wishing to rent their properties on a short-term basis must be required to register with the City, provide a 24/7 contact for any issues, and ensure that tenants follow applicable City regulations on garbage, noise, and parking. We have asked for the proposal to be strengthened and are awaiting the second draft.

When You Need To Report –

- **Potholes**: If you notice a pothole that needs to be filled in, call 954-828-8000 to report.
- **Flooding**: If you notice flooding on your street or around the City, call 954-828-8000 to report.
- **Code Issues**: If you notice a code issue (i.e., trash, work being done without a permit, neighbors neglecting their home/property, illegally parked cars, etc.), call 954-828-5207 to report.

All of the above can also be reported online, where you can log in a concern and track it at

<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/public-affairs-office/lauderserv>.

- **Suspicious Activity**: If you notice something just not right (cars slowly driving up and down the street checking out property, people going door to door, strangers lurking in backyards or strolling through your neighborhood), call the non-emergency number to report possible criminal activity – 954-764-4357.

For Your Calendar –

- **City Commission Summer Recess – Wednesday, July 8 - Sunday, August 16, 2015** (My regular Pre-Agenda Meetings will resume on Monday, August 17 at 5:30 PM in the 8th Floor Conference Room at City Hall.)
- **Hurricane Season is June 1 through November 30** - The City website for Hurricane Hazard Information is at <http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/fire-rescue/emergency-management/hurricane-preparedness>.

➤ My City Hall Office Hours are Mondays from 2 - 5:30 PM and Tuesdays from 9 AM - Noon (in non-Commission weeks). To schedule a meeting, contact MJ Matthews at 954-828-5028 or mmatthews@fortlauderdale.gov.